

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PORT L 00745 231224Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 231125Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5429

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT LOUIS 0745

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR OVIP MP

SUBJECT: PROPOSED WASHINGTON VISIT BY PRIME MINISTER

RAMGOOLAM

REF: PMRT LOUIS 709

1. PRIME MINISTER RAMGOOLAM DEPARTED FOR LONDON LAST NIGHT AND IS NOW SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE NEW YORK SEPTEMBER 25, GIVE MAURITIAN SPEECH AT UNGA SEPTEMBER 29 AND DEPART NEW YORK PRESUMABLY FOR LONDON SEPTEMBER 30. WE UNDERSTAND HE EXPECTS TO RETURN TO MAURITIUS OCTOBER 15 OR 16 TO BE PRESENT FOR PRINCES ALEXANDRA'S VISIT NOW SCHEDULED TO START OCTOBER 17.

2. PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE RAMGOOLAM APPEARED OBVIOUSLY DISAPPOINTED BY LACK OF ANY RESPONSE TO HIS REQUEST (REFTTEL) TO MEET WITH THE PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY, BUT ALL RAMGOOLAM SAID TO ME SPECIFICALLY WAS "WELL, MAURITIUS IS ONLY A SMALL COUNTRY AND PRESIDENT FORD IS OBVIOUSLY VERY BUSY."

3. NATURALLY I AM VERY DISAPPOINTED THAT IT HAS NOT BEEN POSSIBLE IN ALL THESE MONTHS TO MAKE ANY ARRANGEMENT FOR RAMGOOLAM TO MEET THE PRESIDENT, BECAUSE I BELIEVE WE ARE MISSING A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO DEFEND AND PROMOTE OUR REAL AND PRACTICAL INTERESTS HERE AND I FEEL THAT NET RESULT IS LIKELY TO BE TO INCREASE RAMGOOLAM'S VULNERABILITY TO GROWING INDIAN AND SOVIET INFLUENCE.

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4. I STILL BELIEVE THAT RAMGOOLAM WOULD BE WILLING TO POST-
PONE HIS DEPARTURE FROM NEW YORK FOR A SHORT TIME IF THERE
IS ANY CHANCE THAT A MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CAN BE ARRANGED
EVEN AT LAST MOMENT. PLEASE ADVISE.
MANHARD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Concepts: PRESIDENT, FOREIGN RELATIONS, MINISTERIAL VISITS, SPEECHES, MEETINGS
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Draft Date: 23 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Authority: ShawDG
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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